

**Minutes of S. Gus Alexander, Jr. Memorial American Legion Post 111,  
Department of Texas  
Meeting**

4 August 2010

Regular Meeting Called to Order at 1901L.

Roll Call of Officers:

S.A. LeJune, Commander – Present & Presiding  
Steve Kennedy, Vice-Commander – Present  
Gary Smith, Adjutant - Present  
Pat Sansom, Finance Officer – Present  
Charles Nations, Chaplain – Present  
Gary Poplin, Judge Advocate – Present  
Ed Jones, Historian - Present  
Jerry Adams, Service Officer - Present  
Willard Hampton - Sergeant at Arms – Present  
Ed Jones, Trustee Chairman – Present  
Jim Swafford, Trustee – Present  
Luis Santana, Trustee – Present

Officers Present:	11
Other voting members present:	2
Jan Cloud	
Tommy Sorrell	
Total voting members present	13
Guests Present:	0
 SAL	 2
Joe O’Neal	
Joe Trevino	
AL Auxiliary	0
Total Present:	15

Opening ceremonies were held. Charlie Nations gave the opening prayer. SA LeJune led the Pledge of Allegiance and The American Legion Creed.

All Officers and Trustees were present.

SAL Commander Joe O’Neal and SAL member Joe Trevino were introduced as guests in attendance.

Commander LeJune acknowledged that August 4<sup>th</sup> is Coast Guard Day.

The reading of the July minutes was waived. No corrections were noted. The minutes will be

published as written.

The Commander called for the Committee reports.

Finance Report: Pat Sansom presented the Finance Report for July. The Finance Officer again expressed her dire concern over the post finances. No corrections were noted, so the finance report will be accepted as published.

Membership Report: Vice Commander Steve Kennedy gave the Membership report. The 2011 membership drive was kicked off at the beginning of July. The Post's 2011 membership goal has been set at 133 by the Department and our 2011 membership is currently 66. This is a good start for the new membership year.

The Adjutant presented member candidate and transferee Willie Simmons for acceptance into Post 111. Willie is a Korean War vet and was a member of the U.S. Army. Gary Smith made a motion to accept Willie as a Post 111 member. The motion was seconded by Steve Kennedy. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried. Welcome aboard Willie Simmons!

Judge Advocate Report: Gary Poplin was excused from the meeting early, but several issues were resolved before the meeting. The issue of liability insurance for the ALR chapter was raised. ALR members are required to carry their own liability insurance. A waiver will be signed by ALR members absolving The American Legion and all sub-units of the same of any liability. A Post Operations Procedure will be drafted for acceptance by the membership that will apply to the ALR and include their By-Laws. A letter giving family permission to the Post 111 to use S. Gus Alexander, Jr.'s name for the Post has been drafted for Louise Alexander's and Kathy Smith's (mother and widow of S. Gus Alexander, Jr. respectively) signature. Gary Poplin will follow up for the signatures.

Service Officer Report: Jerry Adams had nothing to report.

Trustee Report: Ed Jones had nothing to report.

Webmaster Report: Gary Smith stated that the Post website is entered into the national contest and the winner will be decided at the National Convention later this month. It was also noted that the Post's website now accepts donations and that the ALR will be incorporated into the website after the national contest is over.

Building Report: The Commander stated that he has been inquiring about renting parking space to truckers for a fee of \$100 per month per truck. The Commander stated that paint and materials are available for painting and repairing rooms. As such, volunteers are needed to help with the work. Paint is also available so that Gary Poplin can spray the AC cage, which he previously volunteered to do. The meeting room has been rearranged so that darts can now be played.

Sick Call Report: Charlie Nations will make an effort to touch base with William "Hawk" Hawkins to see how he is doing.

#### Unfinished Business:

- Country Day on the Hill booth space has been reserved and will be in the same location as last year. It was recommended that Luis (and his car) and the ALR participate in the parade and that the ALR be present at the booth. Both parties stated that it should not be a problem to participate. The Commander will check into getting a local business to donate an item that can be raffled at the event. Items suggested were a TV, iPad, Kindle, rifle/shotgun, tool set, etc.
- The Commander plans to have a Gentlemen's Night. Details are being worked out.
- The Officers were encouraged to register on myLegion.org and set an example for the rest of the members. Gary Smith offered his assistance if anybody requires it.

#### New Business:

- Alternatives were discussed on how to pay off the building. No decisions were made.
- The Commander discussed a meeting that was held with Vsweeps, Inc. in which the Post could have a sweepstakes program that could raise funds for the Post. If the Post had a license to serve alcohol, the sweepstakes would be authorized by the TABC who would have jurisdiction over such matters. The program is authorized by the TABC. A motion was made by Pat Sansom to pursue this opportunity further. Jim Swafford seconded the motion. A vote was called and the motion carried.
- Gary Smith covered several issues that brought up at the Department Legion College that he attended last month: meeting procedures, Supplemental Charter requirements, renewing Incorporation every 4 years, State tax exemption (form 204-2) to be filed every year, AUX payment procedures for ALR members, use VA worksheet for PTSD claims and bring wife when being evaluated or examined by doctors, use of Skype for meetings, property inventory should be conducted each year, herbicide (e.g., Agent Orange) coverage by VA expanded – person should re-open claim if previously turned down, proof of age must now be accompanied with PUFL application, and Post signage should contain meeting times and website.
- Commander LeJune presented Commander Award pin, certificate and plaque to Gary Smith for his service as Post Commander during the period of 2008-2010.
- No family night will be held in August.

#### For the Good of Legion:

- Pat McEnroe stated that Carl Dimoush was doing well and living in Florida. Justin Gifford was also concerned that he never got his scholarship award. Louis McElroy, this past year's Boys State participant, will be going to Texas A&M in the fall and currently working in robotics. Pat also gave thanks to everyone for their concern and support while going through his medical problems.

The closing prayer was given by Charlie Nations.

The colors were retired.

The Commander adjourned the meeting at 2020L.

The meeting minutes were recorded and transcribed by Gary Smith, Adjutant, and approved by S.A. LeJune, Commander.

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Minutes approved as read by Membership: \_\_\_\_\_